GOVERNMENT OF OUDE.

RETURN to an ORDER of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 10 July 1838;—*for*,

I.

COPIES of all MINUTES of the Governor-General and Members of Council in *Bengal*, and of all Proceedings of the Governor-General in Council, and of all Communications from the Governor-General in Council to the Court of Directors; and of all Communications from the Resident of the East India Company at *Lucknow* to the Governor-General in Council, or to the Court of Directors, relative to the Death of the late King of *Oude*, Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder; and the Steps adopted by the Resident of the Company for the Regulation of the Succession to the Throne.

II.

COPIES of all MEMORIALS addressed to the Governor-General in Council, to the Court of Directors, or to the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, by any Individuals asserting a Claim to the Throne of *Oude*, and the Answers returned thereto.

III.

COPIES of all TREATIES ratified between the Governor-General in Council and the present reigning King of *Oude*.

(*Mr. Winthrop Praed.*)

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17 *July* 1838.

SCHEDULE.

I.—DEATH OF THE LATE AND SUCCESSION OF THE PRESENT KING OF OUDE.

1.—Extract of a Despatch from the Governor-general of India in Council to the Secret Committee, dated 5 August 1837; reporting the Death of the late and Succession of the present King of Oude, and the attempt unsuccessfully made by the Padshah Begum to seize the Throne for her adopted Son - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 3

2.—Copy of a Letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Secretary to Government of India, dated 8 July 1837; reporting the fact of the King's death, and the accession of Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, p. 3

3.—Copy of a Letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Secretary to Government of India, dated 9 July 1837; transmitting copy and translation of a Deed of Engagement executed by Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, but not ratified by the Governor-general of India in Council - p. 4

4.—Copy of a Letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Secretary to Government of India, dated 10 July 1837; with a Memorandum, by Lieutenant Shakespear, explanatory of the events at the Palace from the death of the King until Nusseer-ood-Dowlah was seated on the Throne - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 5

5.—Copy of a Letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Secretary to Government of India, dated 12 July 1837; requesting the sanction of Government to the assumption of certain Titles by the King of Oude - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 12

6.—Copy of Minute by the Governor-general, dated 11 July 1837; on receipt of the first intelligence of the death of the late King, and the exaction of an engagement from his successor - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 13

7.—Copy of Minute by Mr. Ross, dated 11 July 1837; to the same effect - - - p. 14

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9.—Copy of Minute by Mr. Shakespear, dated 11 July 1837; to the same effect - - p. 14

10.—Extract of Despatch from Secretary to Government of India to Resident at Lucknow, dated 19 July 1837; in reply to his Despatches of the 8, 9, and 10 July, detailing the occurrences which have taken place in connection with the death of the late and accession of the present King - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 14

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12.—Copy of a Despatch from Resident at Lucknow to Secretary to Government of India, dated 15 July 1837; reporting the removal of the Padshah Begum and Moona Jaun to Cawnpore, p. 16

13.—Copy of a Letter from the Secretary to Government of India to Secretary to Lieutenant-governor of North-western Provinces, dated 24 July 1837; instructions as to the disposal of these individuals - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 23

14.—Copy of a Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Resident at Lucknow; dated 24 July 1837; to the same effect - - - - - - - - - - - p. 23

II.—CLAIMANTS TO THE THRONE OF OUDE.

15.—Copy of a Letter from the Nawaub Yemeen-ood-Dowlah to the Court of Directors, dated 21 December 1837; asserting his pretensions to the Throne of Oude, and his having a superior claim to that of his younger brother, Igbal-ood-Dowlah, who is on his way to England - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 24

16.—Copy of a Letter from the Nawaub Yemeen-ood-Dowlah to the Lieutenant-governor of the North-western Provinces, dated 26 July 1837, asserting his pretensions to the Throne of Oude - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 25

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22.—Extract from a Memorandum by Resident at Lucknow, dated 3 July 1837; and P. S., dated 26 July 1837; explanatory of the rule of succession in respect to the Throne of Oude, p. 28

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III.—TREATIES with the present King of Oude which have been ratified - - - p. 28

Shri Brihad Bhartiya Samaj

on 24 February, 2020

I.

PAPERS relative to the Death of the late and Succession of the present King of *Oude*.

— No. 1. —

EXTRACTS from DESPATCH addressed by the Governor-general of India in Council to the Secret Committee, dated Fort William, 5 August 1837.

WE have now the honour to communicate, for the information of your Honourable Committee, the important intelligence of the death of his Majesty Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, King of Lucknow. Death of late and Accession of the present King of Oude.

This event was communicated to us by the resident, in an express despatch of the 8th ultimo. By the same opportunity we learnt, that a daring attempt had been made by the Padshah Begum to seize the throne for a boy whom she had adopted, named Moonna Jaun, and that Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, the uncle of his late Majesty, had been proclaimed King of Oude. No. 1.

In a letter of the 9th ultimo, the resident reported having taken an unconditional agreement from the new king, prior to his succession, binding himself to abide by the will of the British Government. We entertained doubts, though with some difference of opinion, upon the expediency of this proceeding; but, with the exception of this single point, we had every reason to applaud (and in this feeling we confidently anticipate the concurrence of your Honourable Committee,) the admirable judgment, temper and firmness, displayed by Colonel Low throughout the arduous and delicate crisis referred to.

On the consultation, noted in the margin, will be found the correspondence relative to the removal from the Oude territories of the Padshah Begum, and the boy Moonna Jaun. This measure we entirely approved, as necessary to the peace and tranquillity of the country. It has been left to the Lieutenant-governor of the North-western Provinces to determine in what particular place within the Company's territories those individuals are to be detained. Abstract. Nos. 14 to 16.

— No. 2. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Resident at *Lucknow* to *W. H. Macnaghten*, Esq., Political Secretary to the Government of India, Fort William. No. 2.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, 8 July 1837.

I WRITE this in haste, and shall send it by express, to announce to the Government of India the death, yesterday, near midnight, of Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, the king of Oude, and the elevation to the throne of this kingdom of Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, the next heir, from whom, as a condition of his advancement to the throne of his ancestors, I, previously to inviting him to the palace, obtained a written agreement as to a new treaty, the tenor of which will, I trust, be satisfactory to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council. I shall not fail to forward a translation of that document by to-morrow's post; at present this is not in my power, for during 12 hours the whole of my time, till within the last few minutes, has been occupied in matters which could scarcely be postponed for a moment. This has been chiefly owing to a daring attempt before daylight this morning, on the part of the Padshah Begum, to seize by a *coup de main* the throne for her grandson, (by adoption) Moonna Jaun, in which she so far succeeded that the boy was actually seated on the principal throne of this government, and in the Barradurree of the palace, about three hours and a half; part of that time being before the arrival of the British troops from cantonments, and part after their arrival. I made four attempts, one in person, and three through

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vakeels, to persuade the Begum to depart in peace; and at last, seeing those attempts utterly fruitless, and that her followers were increasing in numbers and in insolence, I ordered an attack upon the building where her durbar was being held, when her followers were speedily expelled, losing between 30 and 40 men, and the Begum and the young pretender, and the chief ringleader of the rebels, being all three captured. On the British side I have only as yet heard of three men being wounded; I regret to say that Captain Paton is one of the latter; but his wound, which was, I am told, by a blow on the face from a matchlock, is not of a dangerous nature, though causing considerable pain, and he also was otherwise bruised and maltreated in the crowd. I find it impossible to give a more detailed account of this extraordinary affair at present, because there is still much confusion in the palace (where I now am), but I feel confident that before evening the general tranquillity of both the palace and the city will be fully restored.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

P. S.—Two o'clock. Tranquillity is already almost completely restored in the palace, and my reports of the state of things in the city are also very favourable in comparison to what they were some hours ago. There are still dense crowds of people in many of the streets; but I am assured that all those open acts of plundering and violence, which had commenced during my negociations with the Begum, have entirely ceased since 10 o'clock.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

ABSTRACT of a LETTER from the Resident to the Political Secretary to the Government of India, dated 8 July 1837.

REPORTS the demise of Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, King of Oude, and the accession of Nusseer-ood-Dowlah to the throne; the attempt to seize the throne by the Padshah Begum for her adopted grandson; the expulsion of the rebels from the palace, and the capture of the Begum, the pretender to the throne, and the chief ringleader of the Begum's followers.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.

COPY of a LETTER from the Resident at *Lucknow* to *W. H. Macnaghten*, Esq., Political Secretary to the Government of India, Fort William.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, 9 July 1837.

WITH reference to the first paragraph of my yesterday's letter, by express, I have herewith the honour to enclose a copy and translation of the paper to which I obtained the signature of Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, previous to inviting him to the palace. It was written in great haste, at midnight, after my return from the bedroom of the late king. There was not a moment to lose; for a report had just reached me, that the Begum's people were preparing to march; and I had also many other things to attend to; but, although the paper is short, I trust its tenor will be satisfactory to the Government, since it must give the Governor-general of India a full right to include every detail that may be desirable in the projected new treaty. After a short conversation with Lieutenant Shakespear, the head moonshee of his office and Mouluee Gholam Yahea, the durbar vakeel, the present king consented, without hesitation, to the proposal made to him; and then wrote a few words, expressive of his consent, on the document, and sealed it.

2. I have still so much to do personally at various places, and have such frequent references made to me on many subjects, from both natives and Europeans,—(I have detained, for the present, a regiment of native infantry at the palace,)—that I still find it impossible to give a full account of the late extraordinary events here; but Lieutenant Shakespear is now occupied in drawing up a memorandum on the subject, and I thus hope to be able to address you more fully by this evening's dawk. In the meantime I think it right to send this off by express, chiefly for the purpose, first, of announcing to the

the Government that the great mass of the population here, after the funeral of the late king was over (about sunset) last evening, returned to their usual habits and occupations, with the exception of a portion of the shopkeepers, who shut up their shops till this morning: next, that this day the public tranquillity seems fully restored in all parts of the city; and, lastly, that as proclamations were issued and despatched to the several districts in the country early yesterday, announcing the accession to the throne of the present king, and confirming all the local functionaries in their respective offices, I have every reason to believe that the general peace of the country will not be disturbed by the short-lived usurpation of the Begum.

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3. As I think it prudent not to let it be known here at present, that any change in the treaty is in contemplation, I have written this letter in the secret department.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

P.S.—The late king died at the age of 36; I am told that the present king's titles are not to be settled till the day after to-morrow.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

ABSTRACT of a LETTER in the Secret Department from the Resident at *Lucknow*, to the Political Secretary to the Government of India, dated 9 July 1837.

TRANSMITS a copy and translation of the deed of engagement executed by Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah; promises to send a detailed report of the recent occurrences, which is under preparation, and states that the public tranquillity has been fully restored in the city.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

TRANSLATION of a DEED of ENGAGEMENT, executed by Nawaub *Nusseer-ood-Dowlah*, on the Night of the 7th of July 1837.

Lieutenant-colonel John Low, the resident, has apprised me through Lieutenant Shakespear, his second assistant, of the death of Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, King of Oude. The resident has also communicated to me the substance of the orders of the Government of India, respecting the necessity of new engagements on the part of the Company's Government with the Oude state; and I hereby declare, that in the event of my being placed on the throne, I will agree to sign any new treaty that the Governor-general may dictate.

(True translation.)
(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

N.B.—At the foot of the Persian paper the present king wrote the words "*Cubool wo Munzoor ust*," and affixed the impression of his seal.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

— No. 4. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Resident at *Lucknow* to *W. H. Macnaghten*, Esq., Political Secretary to the Government of India, Fort William.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, 10 July 1837.

I MENTIONED, in my report of yesterday, that Lieutenant Shakespear was then occupied in writing a memorandum respecting the strange events which occurred here on the 8th instant. My object when I desired that officer to commit to paper his recollection of what had occurred, was chiefly to aid my own memory as to any details that might have escaped me in regard to what occurred during the first two hours after the entrance of the insurgents into the palace: in short, I looked only for a little aid in forming my own report, when I should find time to write one.

2. But when Lieutenant Shakespear brought me his paper this morning, I found that he had commenced his statement and proceeded with it in a connected

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nected and detailed manner, from the hour when I first heard of the late king's danger, and brought it up to the coronation of the present one; and that, upon the whole, his paper is so very complete, and so thoroughly accurate throughout, that (especially as my own time is still much occupied), I desired him to sign it officially, resolving to countersign it myself, and to enclose it in this letter, trusting that the Right Honourable the Governor-general of India in Council will do me the favour to accept the report as from myself. I feel indeed that it would be an unnecessary loss of time were I now to write a separate account of the affair; because, although I do remember some very few details which Mr. Shakespear has omitted, yet they are not of a nature that are material to record; and I repeat the fact, that all the details written by Lieutenant Shakespear (who was close to myself the whole of the morning after the present king's arrival in the palace), are stated with entire accuracy. I have, therefore, thought it quite sufficient to write a few very short remarks in the margin of his paper.

3. It must be superfluous to say, that but for the presence of the British troops, any exertions of individual political officers must have been useless towards quelling such a revolt; but the excellent conduct of those troops, and the cordial support that I personally received from Brigadier Johnston, and other military officers, shall be made the subject of a separate despatch.

4. I now beg to say, that I feel it at once to be a gratifying and an imperative public duty to bring particularly to the notice of the Government of India the prominent zeal and highly useful exertions in their public duties which were displayed during the late events here by my assistants, Captain Paton and Lieutenant Shakespear: I shall never cease to remember with pride and pleasure, not only the activity and anxiety which they both evinced to aid me in every possible way, but their coolness under frequent personal danger, in endeavouring to pacify the violent passions of the furious madmen with whom they were in communication; and the exertion of those qualities were of very great public utility; because the least deviation from coolness of manner or command of temper would assuredly have brought on scenes of bloodshed, which it was of the utmost importance to prevent, until the arrival of our own troops, and until I should have an opportunity of joining them, and of communicating with the brigadier commanding them.

5. If shots had been once fired in earnest, or if any persons had been cut down by swords previous to the arrival of our troops, it is impossible to say how far such acts might have extended; it is not merely that my assistants and myself should probably have lost our lives, but the present king must in all human probability have been murdered, and the treasuries of the state plundered, along with those of the Begums and Zenanas. If the death of the king had occurred in such a manner, it would have been a most deplorable event, and would probably have been followed by a general state of anarchy in the Oude territories.

6. Captain Paton, indeed, did actually suffer from great personal violence, but I feel convinced that it was entirely owing to his own coolness and presence of mind that the insurgents did not murder him, instead of contenting themselves with beating him with sticks, and sheathed swords; it was quite evident to me, indeed, on several occasions during the uproar, that many of the insurgents were very anxious, by using all sorts of abusive language, and violent gestures (such as presenting their loaded and cocked muskets at our bodies, and holding drawn swords close to our faces) to excite us to some act or speech that might give them a plausible excuse for proceeding to extremities. I beg here to add that Iltifaut Hoosain Khaun, bahadoor, the head moonshee of this office, was with me and Lieutenant Shakespear the whole of the morning, and displayed in a striking manner, similar qualities to those which were evinced by Captain Paton and Lieutenant Shakespear, and I feel under great obligations to that very respectable native gentleman.

7. Doctor Stevenson, the residency surgeon, rendered me much active assistance. He had returned to his own house at midnight after inspecting along with me the corpse of the late king, but he was one of the first persons I saw next morning when I got out of the hands of the insurgents. From that time he attached himself to me as a sort of aide-de-camp throughout the morning, and was very useful to me in conveying messages, and in examining and reporting upon

upon places where troops might penetrate into the interior; and it was he who first suggested the expediency of searching for ladders for the use of the troops in the intended escalade of the Barradurree building.

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8. I also received such assistance from Mr. Hare, the head writer of this office, that it would be unjust not to notice his services; they were not indeed of the same important character as those afforded to me by the assistants of this office and the head moonshee, because it so happened that just before the arrival of the Begum's troops I had sent Mr. Hare back from the palace to the residency to bring a letter book that I required, so that from that time till I got out of the palace again he was separated from me, and thus he was not involved in our difficulties; but before Mr. Hare left me for the purpose above-mentioned, he had been zealous in aiding me in many ways, and he was particularly useful to me again from the time I joined the troops (where I found him in waiting for me), in conveying orders from me to parties of the king's forces, in writing notes at my hasty dictation of their substance, and also in procuring ladders for the use of our troops, which measure had been suggested to me by Doctor Stevenson as above described. I should under all these circumstances be neglecting a public duty were I to omit to notice the aid I received from Mr. Hare on this occasion, more especially as he is in all respects a valuable public servant, who from his superior knowledge of native languages, and his general efficiency in the current detail business of this office, has gained the approbation of all the residents at Lucknow during the last 22 years.

No. 4.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

MEMORANDUM of the EVENTS which took place on the Night of the 7th, and Morning of the 8th of July 1837, at the Palace of His Majesty the King of *Oude*.

ABOUT half-past 11, P. M., on the night of the 7th of July 1837, Goolam Yahea Khan, the durbar vakeel, came in great haste to inform the resident that his late majesty Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder had been taken suddenly very dangerously ill, and that he was indeed, by all accounts, just dying. The resident, immediately on receipt of this intelligence, directed his two assistants, the head moonshee, and head English writer, to be in attendance, and wrote to the brigadier commanding in Oude to have 1,000 men in readiness to march at a moment's notice. It was intended that five companies of those men should eventually be despatched in advance of the main body of infantry and guns, for the purpose of planting sentries at the palace-gates, and protecting the treasure and valuables contained within its walls.

The resident then proceeded to the palace, along with Dr. Stevenson, the residency surgeon, and Captain Paton; on reaching which they were all three taken into the inner apartments, where they found the body of his late majesty still warm, laid out on a bed, but evidently lifeless. Dr. Stevenson opened one of the veins in the arm, and blood came so freely, that his majesty's death could have only occurred a very short time previous to their arrival. The countenance of the king appeared to the surgeon to be remarkably placid; the servants described him to have died, apparently, without pain, excepting when he gave one slight shriek immediately previous to his death. His majesty had been ill for about three weeks, but no one imagined the illness to be of a dangerous nature.

Captain Paton then, by order of the resident, taking a few sepoys from the residency escort, planted sentries at several of the inner doors, and outside of the chief buildings and storerooms, with orders to allow none but the minister and treasurer to pass; he also in presence of, and with the assistance of the native officers about the court, sealed up the valuables, jewels, &c., belonging to his late majesty's establishment, and procured a number of mussals, as the night was very dark.

The resident, with Doctor Stevenson, after inspecting the body of his late majesty, and issuing some necessary orders, returned to the residency, leaving Captain Paton at the palace to superintend the sealing up of the royal property. The resident then wrote to the brigadier to send off five companies in advance to the palace, and to bring down all the disposable troops, both infantry and artil-

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lery, to the city; the resident next had a short Persian paper written out, to which he proposed to require Nusseer-ood-Dowlah's consent and signature, previous to inviting him to the palace.

All this took some time, and it must have been about 1 A. M. of the 8th instant when the resident directed his second assistant Lieutenant Shakespear, to proceed along with the residency meer moonshee, Iltifaut Hoosain Khan, bahadoor, and Moulvees Goolaum Yahea Khan, the durbar vakeel, to the house of Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, taking with him the Persian agreement abovementioned; these three persons accordingly proceeded to the said place of residence, and after some delay, which was caused by the visit being sudden and unexpected on the part of the Nawaub, they obtained an audience. Lieutenant Shakespear presented, and caused to be read to the Nawaub, the Persian agreement, to which his signature was requested; the Nawaub willingly and without any hesitation, when it was read over to him, affixed his seal thereto, and expressed his perfect acquiescence to the terms therein mentioned.

After a short conversation, Lieutenant Shakespear took his leave, and returned to the resident with the document in question, which is now deposited amongst the residency records.

The resident shortly after returned to the palace, and after settling some necessary arrangements with Captain Paton, directed him to go back to the residency and proceed from thence in conjunction with Lieutenant Shakespear and the durbar vakeel to the house of the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, and escort him to the palace, where the resident would be in waiting to receive him; this was accordingly done, and about 3 A. M. the meeting took place, and after some conversation the Nawaub, who appears to be much debilitated from bad health, was accommodated with a couch in an adjoining room, where he was left to take an hour or two's sleep previous to his installation on the throne, some of his sons, relations and dependants being left in the same room with him.

The resident and his two assistants returned to an outer verandah, and were engaged in writing and conversing about the arrangement of the ceremonies to be observed on the approaching coronation, when information was suddenly brought to them that a large body of the Padshah Begum's troops was approaching, and indeed close to one of the principal gates of the palace.

Before further recording the momentous events that took place immediately afterwards, it is necessary to go back some way, in order that the connection may be properly kept up.

The resident, before he proceeded the first time to the palace, (that is, about midnight,) having some suspicion that the Padshah Begum might probably make a movement with her armed followers towards the city, although assured by the minister that every precaution had been taken by him against such an occurrence, by troops being stationed at every inlet to the palace, caused one of his chobdars to proceed to the Begum along with two sowars, and to enjoin her strictly on no account to think of leaving her own place of residence, which is situated about four miles from the palace. The chobdar, on his return, stated that he had found the Padshah Begum's sowarree and followers in readiness to come to the city,* that he delivered his message to her, and that she in reply sent her vakeel, Mirza Allee, back with him, and requested that she might, for God's sake, be allowed to see the corpse of the late Nusseer-ood-deen, as she had not been allowed to see him whilst living. The resident, on this, gave a note to the same chobdar, addressed to the officer commanding the five companies on the route from cantonments, requesting him to hurry his march, and bring his men as soon as possible to the Burradurree. The chobdar went some distance towards the cantonments, but could see nothing of the British troops; hearing, however, a great noise, as of a large body of men approaching the city from the direction of Almass Ali Khan's bagh, the residence of the Padshah Begum, he returned to the palace and gave information of the same to the resident. Captain Paton immediately proceeded to the outer gate, by which it was likely they would enter the palace, with a view of urging the guard stationed there to hold their ground; this guard he found to be a very small one, and to be apparently under the control of two or three black slaves; Captain Paton had with

* *Remark by the Resident:*—The chobdar here alluded to only reached me when in the palace, and within about ten minutes of the arrival of the Begum's troops at the outer gate.

with him only two chuprassees; by the time he reached the outer gate, the insurgents had assembled before it *en masse*, and were impatiently demanding admittance. Captain Paton spoke to them through the open bars of the gate; they were in high excitement, uttering abuse and imprecations, and demanding the instant opening of the gate. Captain Paton told them that they were not the real friends of the Begum in following such a course; that the British Government had directed the resident to place Nusseer-ood-Dowlah upon the throne, and that he had accordingly been sent for, and was now in the palace; and that all the gates were shut by the express order of the resident. They furiously urged that the Begum was with them in person, and that she must be admitted. Captain Paton immediately despatched a messenger to the resident for the instant aid of troops, but ere the messenger could arrive, the rebels brought up an elephant to force the gate; the first animal failed in doing it, but a second one, urged on by a vigorous driver, dashed in one leaf of it to the ground. Captain Paton was saved from being crushed by its fall by being behind the one which remained standing; the torrent poured in through the broken half, and the leaders fell upon Captain Paton with fury and violent abuse, accompanied by blows from matchlocks and bludgeons, accusing him at the same time of having refused to open the gate, &c.; one severe blow on the face with a matchlock brought Captain Paton to the ground, but he was still able to hold conversation with the wretches who were thus maltreating him. After a few minutes they pushed on towards the palace, leaving Captain Paton under a guard of their own people. A chuprassee, by name Makhun, who remained with Captain Paton, and was also wounded by the rebels, managed to escape from them, and meeting the five companies of the 35th regiment coming from cantonments, under charge of Lieutenant-colonel Monteath, related to that officer that Captain Paton was either killed or dangerously wounded; Lieutenant-colonel Monteath promptly and kindly despatched Captain Cowley with 30 sepoys to his rescue, who just arrived in time to liberate him from the insurgents.

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Whilst these events were occurring, the resident was giving directions to the minister and others to send out all the cavalry and disposable troops against the rebels, and Lieutenant Shakespear was writing fresh orders to the officer commanding the British troops to hasten their march. So short was the time, however, and so sudden the impetuous rush of the Begum's armed followers, that in a very few minutes every avenue was blocked up, and all egress prevented; these orders, in consequence, could not be sent at the moment.

The rebels, brandishing their swords and guns, rushed in with loud cries, and filled the whole rooms of the Furrah Buksh, thereby separating the resident, Lieutenant Shakespear, and the residency meer moonshee, from the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah and his sons and relations, who were in a separate room. The only thing that impeded their entrance for a moment into this place was a a slight iron gate, which was held to for a short time by the resident and his little party, holding conversation with the rebels; but the gate was speedily burst open, and the Begum's sepoys, flushed with their success, stalked about the rooms with lighted matches, flourishing their weapons, and making use of threatening actions and expressions. The resident, Lieutenant Shakespear, and the meer moonshee, were for some time kept in restraint by them, being confined to the outer verandah and one inner room, and not allowed to pass out of them; in the meantime, the remainder of the rebels, who are by some rated as high as 2,000 men, filled the Burradurree and the long intervening space between it and the Furrah Buksh Palace, and continued shouting and making a great uproar.

After a short time it was reported that the Padshah Begum had arrived, with the boy Moonna Jaun, at the Burradurree; the resident, who, on seeing that nothing could now be done till the arrival of the British troops, had repeatedly told the insurgents that he would speak to the Begum alone, but that he had nothing to say to them. At last the resident managed to have her vakeel, Mirza Allee, brought to him,* and, in company with him, Lieutenant Shakespear, and the meer

* *Remark by the Resident:*—My motives in persuading one of the rebel sentries to apprise the Begum that I wished to speak to her were as follows: I felt that I was utterly useless as a prisoner, that it was therefore better to try any change than to remain where I then was; I thought, too, that if I could once reach the Begum, I might, perhaps, be able to persuade her of the impossibility of her ultimately succeeding in keeping the boy on the throne; and, above all, I thought it advantageous

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meer moonshee, pushed through the dense mass, and succeeded in getting into the Burradurree, a building consisting of four large halls, which they found perfectly filled with armed men, in a state of the greatest excitement, and who were then in the very act of installing the boy Moonna Jaun on the throne, and firing a salute from large blunderbuses to celebrate the event;* the Padshah Begum being at the time seated in a covered palanquin, in the same hall, just below the throne. The uproar from the shouting, the noise of a band of music playing, the firing of the guns, the waving of swords, and the glare of the torches, presented at this time a scene altogether so wild and extraordinary, that it would be difficult to describe it correctly.

The resident, in the midst of this clamour, after some brief and fruitless admonitions to the Begum, insisted upon himself and party being allowed to go out. This several of the rebels seemed strongly adverse to, and by intimidation, such as firing matchlocks close to his face, and seizing him by the neckcloth and pushing him to and fro, endeavoured to make him acknowledge "their Padshah" (the boy was then seated on the throne), by salaming and presenting a nuzzur to him; this the resident refused to do, and several of the rebels became extremely violent, when the Begum's vakeel, who seemed a far more peaceable and well-disposed person than the rest of this fierce and lawless crew, seized hold of the resident's arm, said that it was the "Begum's Hookum," and commenced pushing with him through the crowd; at length, after great difficulty and much pushing, the resident, with his assistant and moonshee, got out safe to the place where the five companies of the 35th regiment, which, under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Monteath, had arrived some short time before, were drawn up in line, a few paces in front of the Burradurree, the same open building where the usurper was seated on the throne. Matters continued in this state until the arrival of the remainder of the British troops and guns from cantonments; the insurgents, with the Begum and the boy Moonnah Jaun, continuing in possession of the Burradurree and the adjoining palace and buildings; and the British troops and guns partly in front, and partly to the right, of the former building.

The business now assumed a very serious appearance, and everything proclaimed that nothing but force could expel the insurgents from the position they had taken up. The Begum continued, indeed, sending evasive messages, by different agents, but refused to listen to the many and earnest warnings and remonstrances given to her by the resident; strongly pointing out the dreadful consequences to herself, if she refused to come down with the boy from the Burradurree, and surrender herself to him, and also direct her troops to quit the city; clearly explaining to her vakeel (and showing him a watch), that upon those terms alone could the Begum be pardoned by the British Government. The resident declared also to the vakeel, publicly, that he himself should be hanged,† if captured, in the event of our assault on the palace becoming necessary.

The Begum and her adherents, however, continued infatuated. Time was now wearing away, and matters had now arrived at such a pitch, that it was evident the attack of the insurgents could not with propriety be any longer delayed; their numbers were manifestly increasing, and their behaviour becoming more presumptuous and overbearing every moment.

A party of infantry having been moved back a few paces, with a view of facilitating the attack, the rebels were heard to say, "The wretches are running away." At this time all was doubt and perplexity, as to the fate of the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah and his relations, the minister and the durbar vakeel, and others, who were known to be in the hands of the insurgents, they having been swept away by the living mass that rushed into the Furrah Buksh palace, and separated them from the resident and his party. Reports also (which afterwards

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tageous to get so much nearer to the place where I knew our troops must soon arrive, so that I might thus by good luck reach them. I thought it of great importance also to do anything that might gain a little time for the main body of our troops to arrive, as it seemed to me unlikely that the rebels would proceed to extremities while I should be in open personal communication with the Padshah Begum. (signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

* In a few seconds after that minor salute was heard, a double royal salute was fired from the open space outside of the Burradurree from two six-pounder horse artillery guns of the Oude government, which had been seized by a party of the insurgents for that purpose.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

† Not the same man who brought me out of the crowd.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

wards proved correct) had just reached us that open acts of plunder had commenced in the city.

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The resident, therefore, plainly told the last vakeel of the Begum, in the most decided manner, that he would only allow her one quarter of an hour more, not only to make up her mind as to the terms offered to her, but actually to reach the spot where he was standing, close to the guns. During this time, another evasive message was sent; and the moment the 15 minutes expired, the resident directed that hostilities should commence, when Brigadier Johnston, who in person commanded the troops, gave the order for the guns to open with grape. Six or seven discharges took place, and a party of the 35th regiment, under Major Marshall, then advanced to the assault, first, by a narrow passage,* and then up a steep staircase to the interior of the Burradurree, from whence a running fire was kept up for some time, and ended by the total dislodgement of the rebels from their posts, (who fled from the other side of the building,) and very fortunately the Padshah Begum, the boy Moonna Jaun, and the principal ringleader and instigator of her party, a man named Ernam Buksh, were captured; the two former are now prisoners under strict confinement, in the residency compound, and the latter has been delivered over to the Oude government.

The total loss of the insurgents amounted to between 30 and 40 killed and wounded,† and three of our own sepoys were severely wounded in the assault.

It now remained to ascertain the fate of the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah and his family, the minister and the durbar vakeel, concerning whom nothing as yet had transpired, further than its being known that they were in the hands of the rebels. The resident had the satisfaction of finding them all, with the exception of the durbar vakeel, safe and unharmed; they had been exposed to all kinds of insults and danger, having been seized and surrounded by the rebels, made to sit down in the midst of them; their lives frequently threatened, and their minds kept in constant alarm. The Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, from being little known, had suffered less than the others; they remained in this state of suspense and agitation until the rebels were put to flight, when their guards seeing the British troops approaching, and their companions flying before them, thought it high time to abscond also. The durbar vakeel being carried along with the first rush of the rebels into the outer verandah of the Furrah Buksh palace, and well knowing that the Begum (though unjustly) entertained great enmity towards him, thought that the best chance of saving himself from the fury of her armed followers would be to leap down from the verandah to the banks of the river. This he accordingly did, but he fell with such force on his feet as to entirely lame himself. After lying for some time on the ground, he persuaded some natives to drag him into a boat, where he remained until the rebels were put to flight, when he was relieved from his painful situation, but it is probable that he will not recover from the effects of his fall for many days to come.

It was now about 9 A.M. of the 8th instant; and the resident wished, for the sake of the general tranquillity of the city, that the installation of the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah should take place as soon and as publicly as possible. He accordingly gave directions for the immediate cleansing out of the Burradurree; and whilst the bodies of the killed and wounded were being removed, he endeavoured to soothe and encourage the Nawaub, whose feelings had been a good deal agitated by the horrid scenes of the preceding night. Having succeeded in this, and the apartments of the Burradurree being now cleansed out, and all arrangements completed for the installation, the resident proceeded from Furrah Buksh again to the Burradurree, and with the brigadier, and in presence of the British troops and officers, and an immense concourse of natives, placed the crown on the head of the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, and seated him on the very throne from which the pretender had been just before expelled, and declared him King of Oude, and proclaimed the same to the inhabitants of the capital by firing a royal salute.

This

* Other sepoys afterwards got up by ladders in front of the building.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

† There were, no doubt, however, others wounded who made their escape; those now alluded to are only the wounded who were taken in the palace.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

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This memorandum has been drawn up rather hurriedly, and it is probable that some circumstances may have been omitted; as it was written however partly the same day, and partly on the day after the events related actually occurred, to nearly the whole of which the writer was an eye-witness, it is hoped that this account of occurrences, which all took place within a period of 10 anxious hours, will be found to be generally correct. Before concluding, it appears proper to observe, that until the five companies arrived from cantonments, the whole of the British force in the city amounted to two companies and a half, one of which constitutes the treasury guard, half a one the gaol guard, and the third company the honorary guard for the resident.

From the two former many men could not of course be spared, but as many as could were taken by Captain Paton to the palace along with a part of the honorary guard, and there distributed as sentries for the purpose of preventing the abduction of the valuable property contained in the different buildings scattered in this way, and on this necessary duty the men of course could not be collected and formed to oppose the sudden breaking in of the Begum's tumultuous array; and indeed after the actual bursting open of the gate, it was more advisable to prevent collision with her men; a firm and resolute conduct on the part of the resident towards the insurgents undoubtedly had a far better effect than any futile attempt at opposition would have had in a dark night amidst crowded buildings, open foes, and concealed enemies.

The smallness of the guard at that outer gate, there being no force placed on the outside of it, as the minister positively declares had been ordered by him, and as was actually done at several of the others which were passed by Lieutenant Shakespear on his road to the Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah; the supineness of many of the palace guards and servants; the perversion of orders sent by the minister on different occasions; his declarations since, that there were many traitors in the palace, all tend strongly to induce the suspicion that the gate was left purposely unguarded to the attack of the Padshah Begum's troops; the latter, however, having once actually entered within the palace walls, could from no position have been so happily expelled, with less loss to our own troops and more disgrace to themselves, than from the Burradurree, the scene both of their short-lived triumph and of their prompt and well-deserved punishment.

(signed) *J. W. Shakespear,*
2d Assistant to the Resident.

I hereby certify that the foregoing account of the events of the 7th and 8th of July, is a thoroughly correct one.

Lucknow Residency, 10 July 1837.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

ABSTRACT of a LETTER, from the Resident at *Lucknow* to the Political Secretary to the Government of India, dated 10 July 1837.

TRANSMITS Lieutenant Shakespear's memorandum of the occurrences of the night of the 7th and morning of the 8th July, the great accuracy of which prevents the resident's forwarding one from himself; reports the prominent zeal, highly useful exertions, and cool conduct of Captain Paton and Lieutenant Shakespear, and the beneficial results arising therefrom, &c. &c.; states the resident's obligation to Moonshee Iltifaut Hoosain Khan, bahadoor, also throughout these eventful occurrences, notices very useful services rendered by Dr. Stevenson, and alludes to the good conduct of Mr. Hare on the occasion.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.

COPY of a LETTER from the Resident at *Lucknow* to *W. H. Macnaghten*, Esq., Political Secretary to the Government of India, Fort William.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, 12 July 1837.

THE King of Oude having, the day before yesterday, requested my sanction, as representative of the British Government, to assume the following titles, viz. Abool Futtuh Moseenooddeen Sooltani Zaman Monsherwain Audil Mohummud Alli Shah, Badshahi Oudh, I have the honour to report, that after referring to the

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the records of this office on similar subjects, I have this day informed his majesty that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the proposed titles are unobjectionable; and a seal is accordingly now being prepared, but it is not to be used till your reply shall be received to this letter.

No. 5.

2. If the titles be confirmed by his Lordship in Council, I would suggest that the Governor-general should at once address his majesty by these titles.

3. His majesty is, I regret to say, suffering much from rheumatism in his limb, from which cause he is at present unable to walk without assistance, but his mental faculties appear to me to be not at all impaired. His manners are very unaffected, and his conversation is that of a man of sense and good feelings; he is personally attending to business every day, is diminishing a great variety of useless expenses, and he has also issued orders for the payment, to within two months, of what is due of all arrears of pay to the troops and establishments. His majesty begged me to present his most respectful compliments to the Governor-general, professed his firm determination to follow the advice of the British Government in all state affairs, and said that he was most anxious to commence holding direct correspondence with the Right honourable the Governor-general, and was only restrained from addressing his Lordship by the etiquette which required that he (as a subordinate ally) should wait for an announcement that he is acknowledged by the paramount state as sovereign of the Oudh dominions.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

P.S.—I beg to enclose a paper, showing the king's proposed titles both in Persian and English.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

— No. 6. —

MINUTE by the Governor-general.

No. 6.

I WOULD not, without further consideration, and on the very brief notices which we at present possess, venture to express any final opinion on the important events which have taken place at *Lucknow*; but I am prepared at once to approve and sanction the general policy which Colonel Low has followed in admitting the claims of Nusseer-ood-Dowlah to the throne of Oude. The title of that prince to the sovereignty appears, according to the most established rules of succession in the Mahomedan law, to be indisputable, and by those rules it is most fitting that we should in the present instance be guided.

I will take an early opportunity of submitting to the Council the ulterior measures which in my opinion should be adopted. For any criticism in detail on the measures adopted by Colonel Low we must wait for further accounts, but I may now say that I should undoubtedly have been better pleased if he had not in this moment of exigency accepted the unconditional engagement of submissiveness which the new king has signed. This document may be liable to misconstruction, and it was not warranted by anything contained in the instructions issued to Colonel Low. The views of his government, as but recently expressed to that officer, are defined and moderate, and from this circumstance, as well as from the new king's character and position, there could in any case have been little doubt of his willingness to adapt his conduct to those views.

It will be matter for our consideration, in what manner some modifications of the existing treaty shall be framed, under which the British Government might have more power to prevent or remedy mal-administration, and by withdrawing from the obligation, still existing in terms, although it has long ceased to be recognised as binding in practice, of exercising a complete and minute interference by means of its own troops, in defence of the Oude Government, be less liable to responsibility for all its acts, and the ordinary course of its internal policy, and this with increase of advantage, rather than injury, in rendering disposable our own military means, and without admitting on the other hand, the formidable growth of an armed and unchecked independence.

The occasion for some modifications of the existing treaty is most favourable; the late treaty has been too constantly disregarded by the sovereigns of Oude, in their continued and most embarrassing rejection or evasion of all our advice for the good government of their country, not to justify us, if it should seem expedient,

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in insisting upon our placing the right of acquitting ourselves of our responsibility upon a clear and admitted basis, and we may avail ourselves of the opportunity offered without reproach or suspicion, provided that our efforts are faithfully directed only to objects of security, and tranquillity, and good government, and are without the taint which schemes of acquisition in money and in land would give them; schemes as repugnant to my own designs and feelings, as they have been ever disavowed by the honourable Court, and by each successive Governor-general, in discussing the grave question of the position in which events have placed us, both towards the Oude ruler and people.

11 July 1837. (signed) *Auckland.*

—No. 7.—

No. 7.

MINUTE by Mr. *Ross.*

I DO not feel prepared to give a decided opinion as to the policy of placing Nusseer-ood-Dowlah on the throne of Oude. If, being the paramount power in India, we are responsible for protecting the people of Oude from the evils of bad government, the policy of the measure may be very questionable.

11 July 1837. (signed) *A. Ross.*

— No. 8. —

No. 8.

MINUTE by Colonel *W. Morison.*

I CONCUR with the Right honourable the Governor-general in the views stated in the foregoing minute, with exception of that part of it which disapproves of Lieutenant-colonel Low having taken the agreement (of which he has sent a copy) from the new King of Oude. The moderation which it will, I have no doubt, be the object of Government to observe, in any new arrangement with that state, will only be the more conspicuous after this occurrence, which I think calculated to prevent much intrigue, and perhaps painful discussion. It is also in my mind a matter deserving of high praise that the resident at such a moment should have shown himself so fully alive to the public interests; besides Colonel Low seems to have followed the rule similar to that which was ordered by Government on a former occasion; *see* Colonel Bailie's despatch of the 12th July 1814, announcing the demise of the Vizir.

11 July 1837. (signed) *W. Morison.*

— No. 9. —

No. 9

MINUTE by Mr. *Shakespear.*

I CONCUR in the sentiments expressed by Colonel Morison. Every allowance must be made for the hurry and confusion which prevented any deliberation as to the nature of the engagement required from the king; the more general the terms, the more was left for the Government to deal with the question according to its own views, while any specific conditions might have led to embarrassment.

11 July 1837. (signed) *H. Shakespear.*

— No. 10. —

No. 10.

EXTRACT from a LETTER from the Secretary to the Government of India to Lieutenant-Colonel *Low*, Resident at Lucknow, dated 19 July 1837.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right Hon. the Governor-general in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters dated the 8th, 9th, and 10th inst., with their respective enclosures, detailing the occurrences which have taken place in connexion with the death of his majesty Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, and the accession of his uncle Nusseer-ood-Dowlah.

2. In reply, I am desired to acquaint you that the Governor-general in Council has no hesitation in recording his high sense of the judgment and promptitude displayed by you on this occasion; and while he regrets the loss of life which has

has been sustained among the infatuated adherents of the Begum, he feels satisfied that nothing short of the most vigorous and decisive measures could have put a stop to the disaffection and anarchy which was rapidly spreading throughout the city.

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3. His Lordship in Council has, therefore, much satisfaction in conveying to you his entire approbation of all your proceedings in this respect, so far as he has already been made acquainted with them.

4. To your assistants, Captain Paton and Lieut. Shakespear, to Dr. Stevenson, and to Iltifut Hoosain Khan, bahadoor, the thanks of Government are eminently due for the cordial and active co-operation which they afforded you during the late eventful period; and you are requested to apprise them that their meritorious conduct has been fully appreciated by Government. Mr. Hare also has entitled himself to commendation; and you will be pleased to acquaint him that his merits and services on this occasion have not been overlooked.

5. On the day following the receipt of your letter, announcing the demise of the late king, an order was issued that the event should be generally notified by firing minute-guns, corresponding in number with the years of the deceased.

6. The salute in honour of the new king's accession has been postponed in expectation of receiving from you a description of the titles assumed by his majesty; but as this has not yet been received, no further delay will take place in the public announcement of the new king's accession.

7. His Lordship in Council would not qualify, even by an expression of doubt, the high approbation which he is ready to express of your conduct on this trying occasion. The expediency of obtaining from his majesty the signature of a previous agreement, binding himself to absolute submissiveness, is the only point on which he feels that difference of opinion may be entertained; and if on the one hand, it may appear to secure the objects of Government, and to be justified by precedent, on the other it seems open to misrepresentation, and, from the reliance which might be placed on the character and position of his majesty, superfluous.

— No. 11. —

No. 11.

COPY of a LETTER from the Governor-general to His Majesty *Abool Futteh Moeen oodeen Sultan i Zuman Nousheer van i Audil Mahomed Ally Shah*, King of *Oude*; dated Fort William, 20 July 1837.

After compliments,

I HAVE derived consolation for the death of his late majesty, your royal nephew, from the reflection that he has been succeeded in the government by a prince of whose experience, prudence, abilities, and virtue, I have been led to form the most favourable opinion.

It is my fervent hope that your majesty will adorn the throne of your ancestors by the display, in your regal capacity, of those qualities which have distinguished you in private life; and that under your just and wise administration the affairs of the government of Oude will daily continue to flourish and prosper. Your majesty may rely with confidence on the firm and invariable support of the British Government, in the promotion of whatever may be calculated to promote the welfare and prosperity of your country.

My representative, Col. Low, who possesses my fullest confidence, has been authorized by me to propose, for the consideration of your majesty, certain modifications of the treaty subsisting between the East India Company and the Oude state, and I feel assured that your majesty will recognize in those propositions the same moderate views, and the same zeal for the welfare of the prince and people of Oude, as have invariably characterized the British Government in its negotiations with its allies.

I look forward, with the greatest possible anxiety, to a personal meeting with your majesty; and I hope to realize to myself this happiness at no distant period. In the meantime, I beg to assure your majesty of the sincerity of my regard for your royal person, and of my ardent wishes that your majesty may long reign over a happy and contented people.

In conclusion, &c.

(signed) *Auckland.*

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— No. 12. —

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Resident at *Lucknow* to *W. H. Macnaghten*, Esq., Political Secretary to the Government of India, Fort William.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, 15 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that at a private conference which I had with the King of Oude, immediately after the public durbar of the 8th instant, his majesty suggested to me that the Padshah Begum should be sent away to the Company's provinces. He said she was the most wicked woman he had ever known, and that there never could be peace in Oude as long as she should remain in it, even as a prisoner, and that he would willingly pay all expenses connected with her confinement in the British dominions. At that moment I had many other matters to think of, and I therefore merely replied that the Begum should in the meantime be kept a close prisoner at the residency, and that I would consult the Governor-general as to the final disposal of the Begum, and the youth Moonna Jaun, who had been the unfortunate tool of her ambition, and was in confinement along with her at the residency.

2. On my return hither from the palace I placed a guard of two complete companies of infantry in and around the house where the Begum and the boy, and the two female servants (who had been taken with the former), were all confined till then under a guard of one company, and taking care that they should have comfortable food, and some plain new clothes made up. I took no further steps concerning them that day.

3. During the latter part of the 8th and the early part of the 9th everything appeared to me to be quite tranquil, and I accordingly reported the same to you in the forenoon of the 9th instant.

4. On the same afternoon, however, I found that there was a very considerable degree of agitation in the city, owing to several rumours, all industriously circulated. One was that a reference was still to be made to the Governor-general as to whether Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, or the boy Moonna Jaun, was to be the king of Oude; another, that the Begum's adherents had resolved to take revenge on me personally for what had been done; and another, that they would make an attack on the house in which the Begum was confined, with the view to rescue her. I did not give any credit to the two latter rumours; but that there were many assemblages (not in large bodies however) of discontented people in different parts of the city, who were disappointed at not having an extravagant woman at the head of the Oude government, instead of a man like the present king, of good sense and economical habits, and that some men were making idle general threats of vengeance against all foes of the Begum, was proved beyond all doubt, and I accordingly resolved to remove the two state prisoners as soon and as secretly as might be to Cawnpore.

5. For that purpose I despatched by express on the evening of the 9th a letter to Major-general Sir Robert Stevenson, K.C.B., of which the Enclosure No. 1 is a copy; and I herewith also enclose copies of three more letters on the same subject between that officer and myself; and lastly, a report from Lieutenant Shakespear, dated at Cawnpore the 13th instant (marked No. 5.) announcing the safe arrival of the Begum and the other prisoners at that station.

6. All that occurred here from the afternoon of the 9th till that of the 12th instant tended to prove the expediency of removing the Begum without delay; the rumours of some projected violence on the part of the Begum's adherents were constant, and so generally had they obtained credit that I was earnestly entreated by several European friends to call over a large body of British troops of different arms from Cawnpore to preserve the public peace. I conceived, however, that if General Stevenson could complete his arrangements from Cawnpore to Newelgunj by the morning of the 12th, and if I could succeed in concealing my intention of sending off the Begum till within a few minutes of her departure, the murmurs or threats of the disaffected in this place were not likely to come to anything very serious in so short a time, and I therefore felt convinced that it would not be necessary to put any of the troops in Cawnpore to the trouble and expense of marching over to Lucknow at this season of the year;

year; and I was also confident that if the Begum and the boy Moonna Jaun were once on the other side of the Ganges as prisoners, all rumours of projected violence here would cease as a matter of course. In that expectation I have not been disappointed. The detachment (as I had arranged) did not leave cantonment till midnight; the march to Newelgunj, about 22 miles, was rapidly executed by Major Lane, of the 2d Regiment; Sir Robert Stevenson's arrangements were admirable, and were all complete; and, as will be seen by Lieutenant Shakespear's report, the prisoners were safely lodged in a secure building at Cawnpore on the evening of the 13th instant.

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7. Since the forenoon of the 13th instant, when the departure of the Begum became generally known in this city, every rumour of intended violence seems to have died a natural death, because the very nucleus of disturbances was removed.

8. The new king's arrangements for restoring order in the affairs of the state have also been much facilitated by the cessation of all such rumours as those above alluded to, and I have now not the slightest reason to anticipate any interruption to the public tranquillity.

9. I cannot doubt that the Governor-general of India in Council will approve of my having removed the state prisoners at once, under all the circumstances of the case, and I now beg to suggest the speedy decision of Government as to the proper place to fix upon for her residence; Cawnpore is, in my opinion, decidedly too near to this. Chunar, Allahabad, or Agra would, any of them, be preferable; but, if it were equally convenient to Government, I should think that the first or the last would either of them be preferable to Allahabad, which is objectionable, though not to the same degree, for the same reason which exists in respect to Cawnpore.

10. There will be no difficulty in respect to the expenses attending the care of these prisoners. The king told me yesterday that the Begum being the widow of his brother, he would always wish that she should be respectably situated as to an abode, and as to servants, clothes, furniture, and any other comforts; but that he certainly thought she ought never either to have the liberty of action, or to possess any wealth beyond a comfortable monthly pension for a woman of a respectable rank of life "who never left her zenana." He added a speech to the following effect, that "he would, if necessary, readily defray the expenses required to build a suitable house, constructed so that it could be easily guarded, for the Begum and Moonna Jaun at Benares, or any other station that the Governor-general might point out, though commodious rooms in a fort would be still better."

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Low*,
Resident.

Enclosure No. 1.—To Major-general Sir *R. Stevenson*, K.C.B., commanding Cawnpore Division of the Army, Cawnpore.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, 10 July 1837.

As it is of very great political importance that two state prisoners now in custody here shall be securely imprisoned in the British dominions, at as early a date as possible, I have the honour to express my earnest request that you will, without any delay, detach three troops of native cavalry towards Newelgunj, leaving one troop at Oonaw, another at Ruhmutgunj, and the third troop is to halt at Newelgunj, till the arrival of the prisoners, who will be in palanquins, escorted by a party of troops from Lucknow; and it is my wish that the prisoners shall not halt a moment during their dâk journey from this place to Cawnpore.

2. I beg also, that you will be so obliging as to arrange that 60 palanquin bearers and six mussalchies shall be at each of the three stages above mentioned, under the special orders of the officer commanding the troop left at each place.

3. The prisoners will be under the immediate charge of Lieutenant Shakespear, the second assistant of this office, who will deliver them over to you. I beg that you will have them securely guarded, and not allowed either to quit the building in which they may be confined, or to have the use of writing

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materials, till the pleasure of the Government shall be ascertained respecting the ultimate disposal of them. There is not the least necessity for particular delicacy being used as to the mode of confining them, because any title which they formerly had to respect has been entirely forfeited by their crimes; the security of their persons is the main object; and the next is, to prevent as much as possible their having communication with any natives, excepting those servants who will be required to convey to them their food.

4. You will probably have to communicate with the deputy postmaster, in order to procure the bearers and mussalchies; but I beg that you will kindly instruct him to avoid mentioning to any one the object of sending them out. It is the usual mode for the postmaster at Cawnpore to post bearers only as far Ruhmutgunj, but I am anxious that my intentions on this matter shall be a secret here as long as possible; and it is preferable therefore that bearers should not be sent out from this place.

5. I mean to endeavour so to arrange, that Lieutenant Shakespear shall arrive at Newelgunj after your party shall have arrived and rested there about eight hours. I beg, therefore, that you will oblige me by letting me know on what day and at what hour that party will reach Newelgunj.

6. I feel confident, from your well-known and often proved zeal for the public service of the Indian government, that you will kindly forgive my asking you to take so much trouble on this occasion, notwithstanding that part of it connected with the bearers, &c. is an unusual sort of demand upon the time and attention of an officer of your high rank and station.

7. I herewith enclose a draft for 200 rupees, in order to defray the expenses of the dâk from Newelgunj to Cawnpore.

In conclusion, I beg to be favoured with a reply to this despatch as soon as possible.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Low*,
Resident.

P.S.—When the Newelgunj troop shall have delivered over the prisoners to the troop at Ruhmutgunj, the former can return to Cawnpore by regular marches, and the Ruhmutgunj troop can *rejoin its regiment* in the same manner. It will be necessary, of course, to explain the nature of this service to the officers commanding each of the three troops, but I trust to your giving them strict injunction to keep the matter entirely secret from their men. I have no reason, indeed, to think that there will be any attempt at rescue between Newelgunj and Cawnpore, but still it is quite proper to take every precaution in our power to prevent my intentions, with respect to these prisoners, being known in the Oude territories.

(signed) *J. Low*,
Resident.

(True Copy.)

(signed) *J. Low*,
Resident.

Enclosure No. 2 (973).—To Lieutenant-colonel *Low*, Resident, Lucknow.

Division Head Quarters, Cawnpore,
10 July 1837.

Sir,

I HAD last night the honour to receive your confidential letter of yesterday by express, and have now to acquaint you that a troop of native cavalry will march from this at two o'clock this afternoon, with instructions to be at Newelgunj by daybreak on the morning of the 12th instant. I have arranged with the deputy postmaster that 60 palanquin bearers and six mussalchies shall be in readiness at that place on the same day and hour, and a troop of cavalry and a relief of bearers at Ruhmutgunj and Oonaw respectively. The bridge of boats having been broken up, a company of native infantry will be in readiness to receive charge of and escort the prisoners across the river. I beg to inclose for your information a copy of the instructions I have directed to be given to the officer proceeding in command of the troop to Newelgunj; nearly similar instructions will be given to the officers commanding the other two troops, in addition

addition to which they will severally be made fully acquainted verbally with the nature of the service on which they are proceeding, and the necessity for secrecy and caution.

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I shall arrange for the secure custody of the prisoners on their arrival here, and have the honour of communicating hereafter the steps taken to carry your instructions regarding them into effect.

I have, &c.

(signed) *R. Stephenson*, Brigadier-general,
Commanding Cawnpore Division.

(970. Confidential.)—To Captain *Hodges*, commanding Detachment 5th Cavalry.

Assistant Adjutant-general's Office, Cawnpore,
Sir, 10 July 1837.

I AM directed by the major-general commanding the division to desire that you will cross the river with the troop under your command at two o'clock this afternoon, and proceed on immediately to Ruhmutgunj, where you will halt during the heat of the day to-morrow, and in the evening continue your march to Newelgunj, so as to arrive there by daybreak in the morning of the 12th. On your arrival at your ground at Newelgunj you will immediately feed your horses and allow the men to cook, and at mid-day saddle and have the troop in readiness to mount at a moment's notice. On the arrival of Lieutenant Shakespear, assistant to the resident, with two state prisoners under the escort of a party of troops from Lucknow, you will forthwith return with them to Ruhmutgunj, where you will find another troop in readiness to relieve you, to the officer commanding which you will make over the prisoners.

You will on no account permit a moment's halt after you receive charge of the prisoners, but proceed with the utmost expedition till you make them over to the officer commanding the troop at Ruhmutgunj, nor to have communication with any natives on the road; and you are hereby positively enjoined to keep these instructions, and the nature of the service you are proceeding on, secret from your men.

You will find on your arrival at Newelgunj 60 palanquin bearers and six mussalchies who have instructions to place themselves under your special orders, and you will be pleased to place them under a sentry, and have them in readiness to take up and proceed on with the palanquins the instant they arrive.

It is not expected there will be any attempt to rescue the prisoners, but you must be prepared to resist to the utmost should such be made, and you will take every precaution to prevent a surprise while they are under your charge.

After making over the prisoners to the officer commanding the troop at Ruhmutgunj, you will return to cantonments by the ordinary marches.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Hull*, Captain,
Assistant Adjutant-general.

(True copy.)

(signed) *H. Hull*, Captain,
Assistant Adjutant-general.

(True copies.)

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

Enclosure No. 3.—To Major-general Sir *Robert Stevenson*, K.C.B., commanding Cawnpore Division of the Army, Cawnpore.

Sir, Lucknow Residency, July 1837.

ON looking over the rough draft of my hasty letter to your address of the 10th instant, I regret to perceive that I alluded to the mode of confining the Begum and the youth Moonna Jaun in terms which are liable to misconstruction: this was

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partly owing to an unreasonable objection which the Begum made here at first (but which was necessarily overruled at once) to the officer placed in charge of her, looking at her direct, to ascertain that she was in the room, she insisting that she was only to be spoken to from the opposite side of a purdah, and partly owing to the confused state of affairs then existing in this city, which occupied my thoughts every moment, and compelled me to use the utmost possible haste in writing all the letters that I had occasion (during Saturday and Sunday last) to despatch in different directions.

2. I now think it right, therefore, to explain myself more distinctly as to the mode of confining these state prisoners.

3. In the first place it is essentially necessary that every chance of escape should be most decidedly guarded against, as the return to Oude of either the Begum or the youth might be attended with a civil war, and very extensive ruin to thousands of the inoffensive inhabitants of the Oude territories.

4. But the grand point of security being established, the following seems to me to be the proper mode of treating the prisoners, until the pleasure of the Governor-general in Council shall be known.

5. As the Begum was the wife of a King of Oude, who was personally much respected by the British Government, it is desirable for that reason, and also with reference to the tone of native feeling generally in such cases, that she should always be treated with a certain degree of politeness and courtesy; I also think it quite proper that the apartments in which she is confined should be commodious and comfortable, furnished with plain charpays and tent carpets, and a few wall shades for lights; and provided that the doors of those apartments can be thoroughly guarded, to prevent the possibility of escape, it is unnecessary that sentinels should be in the same room with her. The Begum and the youth Moonna Jaun should occupy the same apartments, and, indeed, they both prefer that arrangement. I conceive that two rooms, opening into each other, and a bathing-room leading out of one of the rooms, will be ample accommodation for the whole four prisoners.

6. The Begum's table, without being very extravagant, should be in all respects a comfortable one; she should be allowed any particular articles of food from the bazar, which she may prefer for herself or her party, and also might be allowed a common hookah, but there ought not to be any expensive things purchased, such as large silver articles, &c. &c.

7. With respect to the youth, who is much to be pitied, as he was only a tool in the hands of the Begum, he ought also to be treated with all kindness consistent with the positive and certain security of his person.

8. There are two confidential female attendants with the Begum; they had the offer from me of being released at once, but they said they would never quit their mistress, and as all parties desired it, I sent them along with the two prisoners, explaining to them that they must, till the pleasure of Government be known, be as strictly confined as the Begum herself; they must not, therefore, be allowed to leave the Begum's rooms for the present.

9. In order to prevent the Begum or the youth, or either of her attendants attempting to escape by assuming the dress of a servant, it will be very necessary that the European officer in charge of the prisoners should personally inspect all individuals leaving the apartments, and it seems quite proper also that the officer should himself see the Begum, and the other three prisoners, twice at least every 24 hours. The Begum assured me, before leaving this, that she would no longer object to conversing openly with any European gentleman, and she did so here freely during the last two days of her stay.

10. I have thought it necessary to use the freedom of giving you my sentiments very fully as to the mode of guarding the Begum, lest the expression of my wish that courtesy should be shown to her might lead to misunderstanding, and thus that more concession should be made towards her comfort than was consistent with the security of her person, which is the main thing to be attended to.

11. In my letter to you of the 9th instant, I mentioned that she was not to be allowed writing materials; but previously to her departure from this, at her earnest request, I consented to allow her to write to myself, or the Governor-general. If, therefore, she should express a desire for writing materials, they may be lent to her, but only with the restriction, that the writing must be executed under the eye of the officer on duty, and delivered to him for your inspection,

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inspection, if you wish to peruse it; and on ascertaining that it is for the Governor-general, or for myself, it can be forwarded by you to me. But as it seems inexpedient that any papers of the Begum, beyond those now in her possession, should remain with her people, I would suggest that when any new writings she may require shall be once executed, the writing materials should be taken from her, and the drafts of the letters despatched should be kept by the officer on guard, to be ultimately given back to the Begum after her position shall be more definitively settled by the government of India. My object in suggesting these precautions, is to prevent the Begum from exerting any portion of her former powerful influence in this state by continuing to stir up, through correspondence, a spirit of disaffection towards the present government.

12. All expenses connected with these prisoners are to be defrayed by the Oude government, but in the meantime they will be paid by me as the British representative at this Court, and I accordingly herewith forward a draft for rupees (1,000) one thousand, which will, I conclude, be sufficient for some weeks to come, in hiring a convenient house, providing the few servants and clothes, &c. that may be required, and also a native writer to keep the accounts, &c. I have already sent a private draft to you for 200 rupees to post bearers, and I beg that you will be pleased to return that sum to me, taking it from the 1,000 rupees now forwarded, so that the account with "the resident at Lucknow" may commence with a credit of 1,000 rupees.

13. All details as to the amounts of petty expenses, daily or weekly, and many other local arrangements, must, of course, be at your own discretion, and I am confident they cannot be placed in better hands.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Low*,
Resident.

P. S.—I beg to suggest that the officer in charge of the prisoners should not be relieved oftener than once every week; a daily change would perhaps agitate the feelings of the two prisoners, and could not add to the security of their persons.

(signed) *J. Low.*
Resident.

(True copy.)

(signed) *J. Low.*
Resident.

Enclosure No. 4. (986.)—To Lieutenant-colonel *Low*, Resident at Lucknow.

Cawnpore Division, Head Quarters, Cawnpore,
Sir, 13 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the two state prisoners arrived last night after gun-fire, and are safely lodged in the building in cantonments formerly occupied as a custom-house, which I have had prepared for their reception, with a captain's guard of 100 men for their safe custody.

I beg to enclose a copy of instructions I have directed to be given to the officer commanding the guard over their persons, contained in a letter to the address of the major-general commanding the station.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Rob. Stevenson*,
Major-gen[l] Comm[g] Cawnpore Div[n].

(981.)—To Major-general *Oglander*, commanding the Station of Cawnpore.

Assistant Adjutant-general's Office, Cawnpore,
Sir, 11 July 1837.

IN continuation of my letter, No. 969, of yesterday, I am now directed by the major-general commanding the division to request you will order a company of native infantry, completed to 100 men, under the command of a captain with a subaltern, to be in readiness on the other side of the river, at the usual place of crossing, to receive charge of the two state prisoners from Lucknow, and cause a sufficient

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a sufficient number of boats to be collected at the same spot to cross the whole party at once.

The prisoners are to be landed at the custom-house, where they are to be confined, and will remain under the charge of the company of native infantry and the European officer detached to receive them from the troop of cavalry at the Ghaut. Instructions have been given to the executive engineer to make the building as secure as possible, and to have it in readiness for the reception of the prisoners and the guard, with which a European officer must be constantly present (a room for whose accommodation will be pointed out by Lieutenant Greene); and it will be necessary that double sentries should be posted at each door or outlet, in order to prevent their having communication with any natives, and that the captain of the guard or his subaltern should visit and see that the prisoners are safe once, at least, every hour during the day and night; but, in doing this, he would not disturb them in their sleep at night, and you will be pleased to caution him that the utmost vigilance on his part for the security of the prisoners is necessary. They are not to be allowed to quit the building on any pretence whatever, or to have the use of writing materials, or to hold communication with the men of the guard or with any persons whatever, except the servants who will be required to convey to them their food.

The major-general requests you will take such further steps as may occur to you as advisable for the safe custody of the prisoners, and direct your brigade-major to be in attendance at the custom-house to-morrow evening, to receive charge of the prisoners on their arrival from Lieutenant Shakespear; and you are requested to report their arrival, and the completion of the necessary arrangements for the major-general's information.

As it is not quite certain when the prisoners may arrive at the other side of the river, the officer commanding the company proceeding on duty there must be instructed to wait till they make their appearance, or till he receives your orders to withdraw.

I have, &c.

(signed) *L. N. Hull*, Captain,
Assistant Adjutant-general.

(True Copy.)

(signed) *L. N. Hull*, Captain,
Assistant Adjutant-general.

(A true Copy.)

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

Enclosure No. 5.—To Lieutenant-colonel *John Low*, Resident, Lucknow.

Sir, Cawnpore, 13 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your information, that the two state prisoners, the Padshah Begum and the boy Moonna Jaun, with the two female attendants, safely reached Cawnpore about half-past nine P.M. yesterday, and they were immediately delivered over by me to the officer commanding the guard which is stationed at the custom-house, a large commodious dwelling on the banks of the river, every arrangement for their safe custody there having been previously made by Major-general Sir Robert Stevenson, K.C.B.

As I was deputed by you to the political charge of the state prisoners above mentioned whilst on their journey here, I feel it an incumbent duty on me to bring to your notice the very cordial aid and zealous co-operation afforded me by all the officers and men comprising the different escorting parties.

Major Lane, of the 2d Regiment N. I., with his three companies, cheerfully made their long march of 22 miles alongside of the palanquins without a man falling out; and Captains Hodges of the 5th, and Verjaie of the 7th Light Cavalry, with their respective troops, had each to escort the palanquins two stages under a burning sun, and once in heavy rain, and this immediately after their long and rapid march from Cawnpore.

In conclusion, I beg to state that the great precaution taken to keep the departure of the state prisoners a secret until it actually took place, appears to have

have had the very best effect, and no attempt at rescue was anywhere made. This duty upon which I was deputed having been now thus happily performed, I propose to take one day's rest, and then return to my office.

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I have, &c.,
(signed) *J. D. Shakespear,*
2d Ass^{t} to the Resident.

(True copy.)
(signed) *J. Low,* Resident.

— No. 13. —

No. 13.

COPY of a LETTER from the Secretary to the Government of India to *R. H. Scott,* Esq., Secretary to the Lieutenant-governor of the North-Western Provinces.

Sir, Fort William, 24 July 1837.

I AM desired by the Right hon. the Governor-general in Council to forward to you, for the purpose of being laid before the Lieutenant-governor, the accompanying copy of a letter to my address from the Resident at Lucknow, dated the 15th instant, relative to the removal of the Padshah Begum and Moonna Jaun from Lucknow to Cawnpore.

2. Adverting to the restless and intriguing character of the Begum, the Governor-general in Council is decidedly of opinion that both she and the boy Moonna Jaun, who is the unfortunate tool of her ambition, should be lodged in some place of security more remote from the Oude dominions, and there detained until all apprehension of danger to the public peace from her machinations may have subsided.

3. The Governor-general in Council would be disposed to name either Chunar or Benares as a suitable place of detention; but on this point his Lordship in Council desires me to request that the Lieutenant-governor will be pleased to decide in communication with the Resident at Lucknow, who has been apprised of this reference.

4. I am further directed to request that the Lieutenant-governor will issue the necessary orders for securing such comfort in the accommodation of the prisoners as may be consistent with their safe custody.

I am, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Macnaghten,*
Secretary to the Government of India.

— No. 14. —

No. 14.

COPY of a LETTER from the Secretary to the Government of India to Lieutenant-colonel *J. Low,* Resident at Lucknow.

Sir, Fort William, 24 July 1837.

WITH reference to your letter, dated the 15th instant, relative to the removal of Padshah Begum and Moonna Jaun from Lucknow to Cawnpore, I am desired by the Right hon. the Governor-general of India in Council to transmit for your information the enclosed copy of one written to the officiating secretary to the Hon. the Lieutenant-governor of the North-Western Provinces, connected with the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Macnaghten,*
Secretary to the Government of India.

II.

CLAIMANTS TO THE THRONE OF OUDE.

— No. 15. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Nawaub *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah* to the Court of Directors.

Claimants to the Throne of Oude.

No. 15.

Honourable Sirs, Benares, 21 December 1837.

I HAVE the honour to submit, with the utmost deference and respect, the following case for your impartial consideration, in the hope that in any future arrangement relative to the succession to the throne of Oude, the claims of your petitioner may not be overlooked through ignorance of such facts as, from the large extent of territory under your control, cannot be supposed in every case to be brought to the notice of your honourable Court.

I am the eldest surviving son of the late Shums-ood-Dowlah, second son of Sadut Ali Khan, Nawaub, Vizier of Oude; and it may not be irrelevant to state that it is a generally acknowledged fact that, but for the premature and sudden death of Sadut Ali Khan, my father would have been his adopted successor.

Subsequently, however, on Ghazee-ood-deen-Hyder, my father's elder brother, being proclaimed, the Supreme Government considered it advisable, for the maintenance of good order, that my father, who was extremely popular at Lucknow, should quit the kingdom; he was consequently permitted to proceed and reside at Benares, where he died. Ghazee-ood-deen-Hyder was succeeded by his son, Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, in the year 1827, who died in the present year, leaving no issue.

Though little conversant with the laws that guide your honourable Court, I entertain no doubt but that my father Shums-ood-Dowlah, had he lived, would have been at present king of Oude, and I have been led to understand that both British and Mussulman laws unite in pointing out myself as the rightful successor; but the Supreme Government have considered otherwise, and my uncle Nawaub Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, bahadoor, third son of Sadut Ali Khan, is seated on the throne. It is not of this however I complain, nor would I have so far occupied the time of your honourable Court, had it not been intimated to me that my younger brother, Igbul-ood-Dowlah, is proceeding to England to prefer a claim to the throne of Oude, setting up himself as eldest son of the late Shums-ood-Dowlah, a point he must certainly fail to establish should your honourable Court deem fit to institute an inquiry through the government of this country.

Having stated these facts, I leave the case for the consideration of your honourable Court, confidently relying on that justice for which its acts have hitherto been so deservedly esteemed.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah*, (L. S.)

— No. 16. —

No. 16. EXTRACTS from the NARRATIVE of the Proceedings of the Lieutenant-governor of the North-Western Provinces in the Political Department, for the Months of July, August, and September, 1837; dated 15 November 1837.

Respecting the pretensions of Nawaub Yemeen-ood-Dowlah to the throne of Oude. Proceedings, 12 August 1837, Nos. 37 & 38; 23 August 1837, Nos. 22 & 23; *vide* Collection, No. 53.

Para. 155. Nawaub Yemeen-ood-Dowlah, the eldest son of Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, intimated that he had addressed the Right honourable the Governor-general, advancing his pretensions to the throne. His highness having at the same time made known his claims to the Lieut.-governor, that the oldest surviving uncle of the late king of Oude had succeeded to the throne by inheritance, according to the Mahomedan law.

From *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah*, Br., eldest son of Nawaub *Shums-ood-Dowlah*, Br., to the Right honourable Sir *C. T. Metcalfe*, Bart., L. G., dated 26 July 1837.

No. 16.

My Lord, Benares, 26 July 1837.

With profound respect and humility, I take the liberty to encroach upon your honour's valuable time with this address, and humbly entreat to be pardoned for the same.

Allow me to bring to your Lordship's notice the following circumstance, that my brother, Iabab-ood-Dowlah, bahadoor, has proceeded to Calcutta [redacted] the purpose of waiting on the Right honourable Lord George* Auckland, [redacted] view of succeeding to the Lucknow throne. I am much surprised, [redacted] a loss how and which way he thinks of being entitled to it, when he being [redacted] to me. I humbly beg your Lordship will be so condescending as to inquire for the eldest son of Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, Br., for which kindness I shall ever acknowledge with gratitude.

Your, &c.

(signed) *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah*, Br,
Eldest son of Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, Br.

— No. 17. —

From Sir *C. T. Metcalfe*, Bart., G. C. B., Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, Agra, to Nawaub *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah*, Bahadour, dated 12 Aug. 1837.

No. 17.

My esteemed Friend, Agra, 12 Aug. 1837.

I have duly received your letters of the 11th and 26th ultimo, and in reply beg leave to inform you that the oldest surviving uncle of the late king of Oude has succeeded to the throne by inheritance, according to the Mahomedan law.

I remain, &c,

(signed) *C. T. Metcalfe.*

— No. 18. —

From *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah*, Bahadour, eldest Son of Shums-ood-Dowlah, to the Right honourable Sir *C. T. Metcalfe*, Bart., L. G., dated 30 July 1837.

No. 18.

My Lord, Benares, 30 July 1837.

With profound respect and humility I again take the liberty to encroach upon your Lordship's valuable time with this address, and humbly intreat to be pardoned for the same.

Some time ago I had brought to your Lordship's notice regarding the Lucknow throne, but much regret to find my views frustrated; I now beg to enclose a statement, both in English and Persian, of my relations, for your kind consideration, to observe who is entitled. Further beg to state that the eldest son of Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, bahadour, named Neeaz Mudh Dowlah, died at Calcutta in presence of his father, who is no ways entitled, agreeable to our laws. I therefore humbly solicit your goodness will take this deeply into your kind consideration, and render justice, for which act of kindness you may rely my Lord I shall ever acknowledge with gratitude.

Your, &c.,

(signed) *Yemeen-ood-Dowlah*,
Eldest son of Shums-ood-Dowlah.

Nawaub Sahaduth Ally Khan, deceased; his son and heirs as follow:—

1. Nawaub Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder, ditto; his son, Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder.
2. Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah's four sons:
    1. Neeaz Mudh Dowlah, deceased, Calcutta.
    2. Yemeen-ood-Dowlah.
    3. Igbal-ood-Dowlah.
    4. Moobareeg-ood-Dowlah.
3. Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, Br, one son named Umjied Ally Khan.
4. Sadakh

Claimants to the Throne of Oude.

4. Sadakh Ally Khan, deceased; no children.
5. Kazim Ally Khan.
6. Jafur Ally Khan, deceased; one son, Hoosein Ally Khan.
7. Hoosein Ally Khan, deceased; one daughter.
8. Habbi Ally Khan, deceased; two children.
9. Jalanl-ood-Dowlah; none.
10. Rookn-ood-Dowlah.

— No. 19. —

9. COPY of a MEMORIAL from the Nawaub *Akbal-ood-Dowlah* to the Court of Directors.

To the Honourable, the Chairman, Deputy-chairman, and Court of Directors of the East India Company.

The respectful Memorial of the Nawaub Akbal-ood-Dowlah, Bahadoor.

Sheweth,

THAT Saadit Ally Khan, your memorialist's grandfather, the lawful and hereditary visier and sovereign of Oude, and the faithful ally of the Company, died in the year 1815, leaving several children, of whom it is necessary to mention only the three eldest sons, namely—

The eldest, Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder.
The second, Shums-ood-Dowlah (your memorialist's father).
The third, Nusseer-ood-Dowlah.

That on his death, Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder, as his eldest son, became entitled by the law of Oude, which is the general Persian or Mahomedan law, to the sovereignty of Oude, and succeeded thereto accordingly; and, under the sanction of the Company, took the superior title of king of Oude.

That, in consequence of the jealousy entertained by Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder of his brother Shums-ood-Dowlah, the latter, under the mediation of the Company, went to reside at Benares, with an annual pension of two lacs of rupees paid from the Company's treasury, as the interest of a sum of money deposited with the government of India for that purpose by the king of Oude.

That on the death of Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder, on the 20th of October 1827, his only son, Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder, became entitled and succeeded to the kingdom of Oude.

That your memorialist's father, Shums-ood-Dowlah, died in December 1827, leaving your memorialist his eldest living son.

That shortly afterwards the payment of the pension was interrupted, upon which subject your memorialist has had occasion to make the most serious complaints, but which are now passed over in the more important object of the present application.

That Nusseer-ood-deen Hyder died in July 1837 without leaving any child, whereupon your memorialist, as the eldest son of Shums-ood-Dowlah, who was the eldest of the brothers of Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder, became entitled to the kingdom of Oude, agreeably to the clear rule of the Mahomedan law in force in Oude, that upon the death of a sovereign without child or brother, his eldest uncle, if living, or the eldest son of such eldest uncle, if dead, is entitled to succeed to the throne in preference to a younger uncle or any other person whatever.

That nevertheless, overlooking your memorialist's rights, the English resident at Lucknow, immediately upon the death of Nusseer-ood-Deen-Hyder, raised Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, the third son of Saadit Ally Khan, to the throne of Oude.

That your memorialist (who at the death of Nusseer-ood-deen-Hyder was at Benares) immediately addressed himself to the Governor-general of India, stating and urging his unquestionable rights to the kingdom of Oude, but could not obtain any answer to his suit, while Nusseer-ood-Dowlah was maintained on the throne; wherefore your memorialist has come to England to claim his rights, in the full confidence that they will be promptly examined and freely and honourably vindicated.

That

That your memorialist is fully prepared to establish all these statements, but as he believes that most, if not the whole, of the facts are well known to the Court of Directors, he contents himself for the present with offering full and immediate proof upon any points regarding which the Company may not be satisfied. Claimants to the Throne of Oude. No. 19.

Your memorialist did wish and hope to have had the opportunity of laying his complaints before the Court of Directors in a less formal manner, but having been informed that he could not be received until he had formally stated in what character he came to England, he has no other course open to him than the present.

And he most respectfully but confidently requests and hopes that the Court of Directors will forthwith declare their intention of taking, and will take, the most prompt measures for placing your memorialist on the throne of Oude according to his unquestionable rights, and as required by the faith of treaties and the honour of the Company's government; or, that if the directors should not be satisfied of the correctness of any of the present statements, they will immediately give your memorialist an opportunity of proving them.

اقلاكبل

(signed) *Akbal-ood-Dowlah.*

No. 21, Cornwall Terrace, Regent's Park,
1 June 1838.

— No. 20. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Nawaub *Akbal-ood-Dowlah* to the Commissioners for the Affairs of India. No. 20.

No. 21, Cornwall-terrace, Regent's-park,
Sir, 1 June 1838.

UNDERSTANDING that I cannot have the honour of being received by you until I have formally made known in what character I have come to this country, I now declare it by enclosing a copy of the memorial which I have this day addressed to the Directors of the East India Company on the subject of my claims for redress at their hands.

I beg leave to add that my visit to you was made as a mark of respect, and not for the purpose of troubling you upon the subject of my claims, because, although personally ignorant of the forms of business in England, I am informed that they should, in the first instance, be submitted to the Court of Directors.

To the Right Hon. I have, &c.
Sir J. C. Hobhouse, Bart. (signed) *Akbal-ood-Dowlah.*
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 21. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Secretary to the Court of Directors to the Nawaub *Akbal-ood-Dowlah*, Bahadour. No. 21.

Sir, East India House, 29 June 1838.

I AM commanded by the Court of Directors of the East India Company to acknowledge the receipt of your highness's letter, dated the 1st inst., and to acquaint you in reply that a claim precisely similar to that which you have advanced having been preferred to the local authorities in India by Yeemen-ood-Dowlah, bahadour, eldest son of Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, that prince was informed "that the eldest surviving uncle of the late king of Oude had succeeded to the throne by inheritance, according to the Mahomedan law."

I have, &c.
(signed) *James C. Melvill.*

Claimants to the Throne of Oude.

No. 22.

— No. 22. —

MEMORANDUM by the Resident at *Lucknow*.

Secret Department, Lucknow, 3 July 1837.

I WRITE this memorandum in order to show what persons are the nearest heirs to the throne of Oude. Their names shall be placed in this list in the regular order of their respective proximity of relationship to the present King of Oude, according to the Mahomedan law.

First I may mention that Saadut Ali Khan had ten sons.

1st. Gazee-ood-deen-Hyder, the late king; he had only one son, viz. the present king.

2d. Shums-ood-Dowlah; he is dead, but had three sons, all alive.

3d. Nusseer-ood-Dowlah; has had a very large family, and has many sons and daughters still alive.

4th. Saduck Ali Khan, dead; had no sons that I have heard of.

5th. Kazim Ali Khan; alive, and has several sons.

6th. Zaffer Ali Khan, alive; has several sons.

7th. Hoossain Ali Khan, dead; has left several sons

8th. Jellal-ood-Dowlah, alive in Calcutta; has no family that I know of.

9th. Kulb Ali Khan, dead; has left several sons.

10th. Rookem-ood-Dowlah, alive; has several sons.

The nearest heirs to the throne are those of the above-mentioned brothers, who are still alive: and supposing all to be dead before the throne shall become vacant, the sons of the eldest brother (the late Shums-ood-Dowlah, who died at Benares some years ago,) would in that case be the next heirs, according to their seniority. I shall therefore include those three sons of Shums-ood-Dowlah in the following list of heirs, placing the present heir first on the list, namely, Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, and so on according to their proximity to the throne.

1st. Nusseer-ood-Dowlah; I believe he is about 62 or 63 years old.

2d. Kazim Ali Khan, nearly 60 years of age.

3d. Jaffer Ali Khan, about 55 years of age.

4th. Jellal-ood-Dowlah; he is, I am told, under 50 years of age.

5th. Rookem-ood-Dowlah, about 32 years of age.

6th. Zumun-ood-Dowlah, about 50 years of age.

7th. Ekbal-ood-Dowlah, the second son of the late Shums-ood-Dowlah, about 38 years of age.

8th. Moobariz-ood-Dowlah, about 22 years of age, third son of the late Shums-ood-Dowlah.

(signed) *J. Low*, Resident.

POSTSCRIPT :—

Lucknow, 26 July 1837.

THE above memorandum was completed on the 3d of this month, when the late king was reported to be in much better health than he had been for the previous fortnight.

The position of the above-mentioned members of the Oude family is completely altered by the events of the 8th instant, Nusseer-ood-Dowlah being now confirmed by the British Government on the throne of his ancestors.

III.

TREATIES with the present King of *Oude* which have been ratified.

There has been no Treaty concluded with the present King of Oude, which has been ratified by the Court of Directors with the approbation of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India.

India Board,
3 July 1838.

(signed) R. GORDON.

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on 24 February, 2020

GOVERNMENT OF OUDE.

COPIES of the MINUTES of the Governor-General, and Members of Council in *Bengal*, &c. relative to the Death of the late King of *Oude*.

(Mr. Winthrop Praed.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
17 *July* 1838.

599.